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THE
SOLDIER'S POCKET BIBLE.

ISSUED FOR THE USE OF THE ARMY OF OLIVER CROMWELL.

[ORIGINAL TITLE PAGE.]

THE
SOLDIER'S POCKET BIBLE,

CONTAINING

THE MOST (IF NOT ALL) OF THOSE PLACES CONTAINED IN HOLY
SCRIPTURE,

WHICH

DO SHOW THE QUALIFICATIONS OF HIS INNER MAN THAT IS A FIT SOLDIER
TO FIGHT THE LORD'S BATTLES, BOTH BEFORE THE FIGHT,
IN THE FIGHT, AND AFTER THE FIGHT;

WHICH

SCRIPTURES ARE REDUCED TO SEVERAL HEADS, AND FITLY APPLIED TO
THE SOLDIER'S SEVERAL OCCASIONS, AND SO MAY SUPPLY
THE WANT OF THE WHOLE

BIBLE,

WHICH

A SOLDIER CANNOT CONVENIENTLY CARRY ABOUT HIM; AND MAY BE ALSO
USEFUL FOR ANY CHRISTIAN TO MEDITATE UPON, NOW IN
THIS MISERABLE TIME OF WAR.

WITH

THE SOLDIER'S PRAYER, AND BATTLE HYMN.

This Book of the Law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein; for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.—JOSH. i, 8.

PREFACE TO THIS EDITION.

Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector of the English commonwealth, from 1653 till his death, in 1658, began his military career in 1642. In 1643 appeared this little manual for his soldiers. Though not prepared by Cromwell, it was published with his approbation, and was in general use among his soldiers. Cromwell's success was due, in no small degree, to the strict morals and rigid discipline of his army, and to the inspiring power of religion. He declared: "Truly, I think he that prays best fights best. I know nothing that will give like courage and confidence as the knowledge of God in Christ will; and I bless God to see any, even in this army, able and willing to impart the knowledge they have for the good of others. Accordingly," he says, "I raised such men as had the fear of God before them, and made some conscience of what they did; and from that day forward they never were beaten, but whenever they were engaged against the enemy they beat continually." Cromwell's Ironsides, as they are usually called, fed their faith upon God's word, went into battle with psalm-singing and prayer, and fearing God only, were the best soldiers, perhaps, the world has ever seen. Their watchword was: "The Lord of hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge." White-locke, describing them to Christina, Queen of Sweden, said: "The officers and soldiers of the Parliament held it not unlawful, when they carried their lives in their hands, and were going to adventure them in the high places of the field, to encourage one another out of His word who commands over all; and this had more weight

and impression with it than any other word could have."

The original "Soldier's Pocket Bible" is in very quaint and antique print and spelling. Only two copies are known to be extant — one in the British Museum, the other in the possession of George Livermore, Esq., of Cambridge, by whose courtesy the annexed copy is printed, quoting the Scripture passages from the received version.

THE SOLDIER'S POCKET BIBLE.

A SOLDIER MUST NOT DO WICKEDLY.

When the host goeth forth against thine enemies, then keep thee from any wicked thing. Deut. xxiii, 9.

The soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely, and be content with your wages. Luke iii, 14.

And if he will not for all this hearken unto me, ye shall have no power to stand before your enemies. Lev. xxvi, 27, 37.

The Lord shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies; thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them. Deut. xxviii, 25.

A SOLDIER MUST BE VALIANT FOR GOD'S CAUSE.

Be thou valiant for me, and fight the Lord's battles. 1 Sam. xviii, 17.

Be of good courage; and let us play the man for our people, and for the cities of our God, and the Lord do that which seemeth him good. 2 Sam. x, 12.

For the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands. 1 Sam. xvii, 47.

A SOLDIER MUST NOT RELY ON HIS OWN WISDOM, HIS OWN STRENGTH, OR ANY PROVISION FOR WAR.

Lean not unto thine own understanding. Prov. iii, 5.

By strength shall no man prevail. 1 Sam. ii, 9.

I will not trust in my bow, neither shall my sword save me. Psa. xliv, 6.

There is no king saved by the multitude of a host; a mighty man is not delivered by much strength. A

horse is a vain thing for safety, neither shall he deliver any by his great strength. *Psa. xxxiii, 16, 17.*

There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death. *Eccles. viii, 8.*

We have no might against this great company that cometh against us, neither know we what to do; but our eyes are upon thee. *2 Chron. xx, 12.*

A SOLDIER MUST PUT HIS CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S WISDOM AND STRENGTH.

Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. *Eph. vi, 10.*

With Him is wisdom and strength. He hath counsel and understanding. *Job xii, 13.*

The God of Israel is He that giveth strength and power unto his people. *Psa. lxxviii, 35.*

God is our refuge and strength; a very present help in trouble. *Psa. xlvi, 1.*

God hath power to help, and to cast down. *2 Chron. xxv, 8.*

I will go in the strength of the Lord God. *Psa. lxxi, 16.*

Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield; but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel. *1 Sam. xvii, 45.*

A SOLDIER MUST PRAY BEFORE HE GOES TO FIGHT.

Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them. *Neh. iv, 9.*

And Sampson called unto the Lord, and said, Oh, Lord God, remember me, I pray Thee, and strengthen me, I pray Thee only this once. *Judg. xvi, 28.*

And David said, Oh, Lord, I pray Thee, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness. *2 Sam. xv, 31.*

If any of you lack wisdom, let Him ask of God. *James i, 5.*

Give me understanding, and I shall keep Thy law:

yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart. Psa. cxix, 34.

Give Thy strength unto Thy servant, and save the son of thine handmaid. Psa. lxxxvi, 16.

Plead my cause, O, Lord, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me. Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for my help. Psa. xxxv, 1, 2.

And the children of Israel said unto the Lord, we have sinned; do Thou unto us whatsoever seemeth good unto Thee; deliver us only, we pray Thee, this day. Judg. x, 15.

A SOLDIER MUST CONSIDER AND BELIEVE GOD'S GRACIOUS PROMISES.

And they arose early in the morning and went forth to the wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said: Hear me, O, Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. 2 Chron. xx, 20.

For the Lord your God is he that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you. Deut. xx, 4.

The Lord shall fight for you. Exod. xiv, 14.

The Lord your God ye shall fear, and he shall deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies. 2 Kings, xvii, 39.

Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O, king. Dan. iii, 17.

I will subdue all thine enemies. 1 Chron. xvii, 10.

Thou shalt seek them and shalt not find them, even them that contendeth with thee; they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of naught. Isa. xli, 12.

No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper. Isa. liv, 17.

A SOLDIER MUST NOT FEAR HIS ENEMIES.

When thou goest out to battle against thine enemies, and seest horses and chariots, and a people more than

thou, be not afraid of them, for the Lord thy God is with thee. Deut. xx, 1.

Ye shall not fear them; for the Lord your God he shall fight for you. Deut. iii, 22.

Be strong and courageous; be not afraid nor dismayed for the King of Assyria, nor for all the multitudes that is with him; for there be more with us than with him. With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the Lord our God to help us, and to fight our battles. 2 Chron. xxxii, 7, 8.

Fear not, neither be faint-hearted for the two tails of these smoking firebrands. Isa. vii, 4.

And fear not them which kill the body. Matt. x, 28.

A SOLDIER MUST LOVE HIS ENEMIES AS THEY ARE HIS ENEMIES, AND HATE THEM AS THEY ARE GOD'S ENEMIES.

But I say unto you: Love your enemies. Matt. v, 44.
Should'st thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the Lord? 2 Chron. xix, 2.

Do not I hate them, O, Lord, that hate thee, and am I not grieved with those that rise up against thee? I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them mine enemies. Psa. cxxxix, 21, 22.

A SOLDIER MUST CRY UNTO GOD IN HIS HEART IN THE VERY INSTANT OF BATTLE.

When Judah looked back, behold the battle was before and behind, and they cried unto the Lord. 2 Chron. xiii, 24.

And Asa cried unto the Lord his God, and said: Lord, it is nothing with thee to help with many, or with them that have no power. 2 Chron. xiv, 11.

When the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, they said it is the King of Israel. Therefore, they compassed about him to fight; but Jehoshaphat cried out, and the Lord helped him; and God moved them to depart from him. 2 Chron. xviii, 31.

A SOLDIER MUST CONSIDER THAT SOMETIMES GOD'S PEOPLE HAVE THE WORST IN BATTLE AS WELL AS GOD'S ENEMIES.

The sword devoureth one as well as another. 2 Sam. xi, 25.

All things come alike to all; there is one event to the righteous and to the wicked, to the good and the clean and to the unclean; to him that sacrificeth and to him that sacrificeth not: as is the good, so is the sinner; and he that sweareth, as he that feareth an oath. Eccles. ix, 2.

So there went up thither of the people about three thousand men; and they fled before the men of Ai. Josh. vii, 4.

And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel. Judg. vi, 2.

And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every man into his tent; and there was a very great slaughter, for there fell of Israel thirty thousand footmen. 1 Sam. iv, 10.

But when he (Moses) let down his hand, Amaick prevailed. Exod. vii, 11.

My children are desolate, because the enemy prevailed. Lam. i, 16.

SOLDIERS AND ALL OF US MUST CONSIDER THAT

though God's people have the worst, yet it cometh of the Lord.

Who gave Jacob for a spoil and Israel to the robbers? Did not the Lord? Isa. xlii, 24.

Shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done it? Amos. iii, 6.

And the Lord sold them into the hands of Jabin, King of Canaan. Judg. iv, 2.

The Lord hath delivered me into their hands, from whom I am not able to rise up. Lam. i, 14.

The Lord hath cast off his altar, he hath abhorred his sanctuary, he hath given up into the hands of the enemy the walls of her palaces. Lam. ii, 7.

FOR THE INIQUITIES OF GOD'S PEOPLE, THEY ARE sometimes delivered into the hands of their enemies.

Even all nations shall say: Wherefore hath the Lord done thus unto this land? What meaneth the heat of this great anger? Then men shall say: Because they have forsaken the covenant of the Lord God of their fathers. Deut. xxiv, 25.

And the Lord said unto Joshua; Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face? Israel hath sinned, and they also have transgressed my covenant which I commanded them. Josh. vii, 10, 11.

The Lord thy God hath pronounced this evil upon this place; now the Lord hath brought it, and done according as he hath said, because ye hath sinned against the Lord. Jer. xl, 2, 3.

My people have been lost sheep; all that found them have devoured them; and their adversaries said: We offend not, because they have sinned against the Lord. Jer. l, 6, 7.

Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins? Lam. iii, 39.

THEREFORE, BOTH SOLDIERS AND ALL GOD'S PEOPLE UPON SUCH OCCASIONS MUST SEARCH OUT THEIR SINS.

Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord. Lam. iii, 40.

Up, sanctify the people, and say: Sanctify yourselves against to-morrow; for thus saith the Lord God of Israel: There is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O, Israel; thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you. Josh. vii, 13.

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ESPECIALLY LET SOLDIERS AND ALL OF US UPON SUCH OCCASIONS SEARCH WHETHER WE HAVE NOT PUT TOO LITTLE CONFIDENCE IN THE ARM OF THE LORD, AND TOO MUCH IN THE ARM OF FLESH.

For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water. Yea, thou shalt go forth from him with thy hands upon thy head; for the Lord hath rejected thy confidences, and thou shalt not prosper in them. Jer. ii, 13, 37.

Thus saith the Lord, cursed be the man that trusteth in man; and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord. Jer. xvii, 5.

AND LET SOLDIERS AND ALL OF US CONSIDER THAT TO PREVENT THIS SIN, AND FOR THE COMMITTING OF THIS SIN, THE LORD HATH MANY TIMES GIVEN VICTORY TO A FEW.

And the Lord said unto Gideon, the people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying mine own hand hath saved me. And the Lord said unto Gideon, by these three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thy hand. Judg. vii, 2, 7.

And the children of Benjamin were numbered at the time out of the cities twenty and six thousand men that drew sword. And the children of Benjamin came forth out of Gibeah, and destroyed down to the ground of the Israelites that day twenty and two thousand men. And Benjamin went forth against them out of Gibeah the second day, and destroyed down to the ground of the children of Israel again eighteen thousand men. And the children of Israel went up against the children of Benjamin on the third day. They enclosed the Benjaminites round about, and chased them, and trod them down with ease; and there fell of Benjamin eighteen thousand men. And they gleaned of them in the highways five thousand men; and pursued hard after them unto Gidom, and slew two thousand men of them. So that all which fell that day of Benjamin were five and twenty thousand men that drew the sword. Judg. xx, 15, 17, 21, 25, 30, 43, 44, 46.

And Abijah set the battle in array with an army of valiant men of war, even four hundred thousand chosen men; Jeroboam also set the battle in array against him with eight hundred thousand chosen men, being mighty men of valor. And Abijah stood up upon Mount Zemaraim and said, hear me, through Jeroboam and all Israel. Ye think to withstand the kingdom of the Lord in the hand of the sons of David; and ye be a great multitude, and there are with you golden calves, which Jeroboam made you for gods. But as for us, the Lord is our God, and we have not forsaken him; and behold God himself is with us for our captain. O, children of Israel, fight ye not against the Lord God of your fathers, for ye shall

not prosper. But Jeroboam caused an ambushment to come about behind them. And when Judah looked back, behold, the battle was before and behind; and they cried unto the Lord, and the priests sounded with the trumpets. Then the men of Judah gave a shout; and as the men of Judah shouted, it came to pass that God smote Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah. And Abijah and his people slew them with a great slaughter, so that there fell down slain of Israel five hundred thousand chosen men. 2 Chron. xiii, 3, 4, 8, 10-17.

And Asa had an army of men that bare targets and spears, out of Judah three hundred thousand; and out of Benjamin, that bare shields and drew bows, two hundred and four score thousand: all these were mighty men of valor. And there came out against them Zerah the Ethiopian, with a host of a thousand thousand, and three hundred chariots. Then Asa went out against him, and they set the battle in array in the Valley of Zephathah at Mareshah. And Asa cried unto the Lord his God, and said, Lord, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O, Lord, our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude. O, Lord, thou art our God, let not man prevail against thee. 2 Chron. xiv, 8-11.

AND LET SOLDIERS AND ALL OF US KNOW, THAT THE VERY NICK OF THE TIME THAT GOD HATH PROMISED US HELP, IS WHEN WE SEE NO HELP IN MAN.

In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen. Gen. xxiii, 14.

And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not; stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will show to you to-day. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace. Exod. xiv, 13.

O, our God, will thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what we do: but our eyes are upon thee. 2 Chron. xx, 12.

Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set your-

selves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord with you. Ver. 17.

To me belongeth vengeance and recompense: their foot shall slide in due time; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste. For the Lord shall judge his people, and repent himself for his servants, when he seeth that their power is gone, and there is none shut up or left. Deut. xxxii, 35, 36.

For my strength is made perfect in weakness. 2 Cor. xii, 9.

Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts. Zach. iv, 6.

For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the Lord: I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him. Psal. xii, 5.

Now will I rise, saith the Lord; now will I be exalted; now will I lift up myself. Isa. xxxiii, 10.

WHEREFORE, IF OUR FORCES BE WEAKENED, AND THE ENEMY STRENGTHENED,

then let soldiers and all of us know that we have a promise of God's help which we had not when we were stronger; and, therefore, let us pray more confidently.

O, Lord, be gracious unto us; we have waited for thee: be thou their arm every morning; our salvation also in the time of trouble. Isa. xxxiii, 2.

Hear, O, Lord, the voice of Judah, and bring him unto his people; let his hands be sufficient for him, and be thou a help to him from his enemies. Deut. xxxiii, 7.

I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me; refuge failed me; no man careth for my soul. I cried unto thee, O, Lord; I said, Thou art my refuge. Psal. cxlii, 4, 5.

Be not far from me, for trouble is near; there is none to help. Psal. xxii, 11.

Remember not against us former iniquities; let thy tender mercies speedily prevent us; for we are brought very low. Psal. lxxix, 8.

Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for my help. Psal. xxxv, 2.

Help us, O, God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name. Psa. lxxix, 9.

AND LET SOLDIERS AND ALL OF US KNOW, THAT IF WE OBTAIN ANY VICTORY OVER OUR ENEMIES, IT IS OUR DUTY TO GIVE ALL THE GLORY TO THE LORD, AND SAY :

The Lord is a man of war : Jehovah is his name. Thy right hand, O, Lord, is become glorious in power : thy right hand, O, Lord, hath dashed in pieces the enemy. And in the greatness of thine excellency thou hast overthrown them that rose up against thee. Exod. xv, 3, 6, 7.

This is the Lord's doing : it is marvellous in our eyes. Psa. cxviii, 23.

For the Lord fought for Israel. Joshua x, 14.

Therefore, I will look unto the Lord. Micah vii, 7.

Who delivered us from so great a death. 2 Cor. i, 10.

Now, therefore, our God, we thank thee and praise thy glorious name. 1 Chron. xxix, 13.

Seeing that thou, our God, hast punished us less than our iniquities deserve, and hast given us such deliverance as this, should we again break thy commandments. Ezra ix, 13, 14.

I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living. Psa. cxvi, 9.

I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgments. Psa. cxix, 106.

A SOLDIER'S PRAYER.

Arise, O, Lord, lift up Thy hand; forget not the humble. Give us help from our trouble, for vain is the help of man. Lord, it is nothing with Thee to help, whether with many or with them that have no power! Help us, O, Lord, our God, for we rest on Thee, and in Thy name we go against this multitude. O, Lord, thou art our God. O, our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us, neither know we what to do, but our eyes are upon Thee.

Our enemies are lively and strong; they that hate us wrongfully are multiplied. Our own familiar friend, in whom we trusted, hath lifted up his heel against us. Arise, O, Lord, in Thine anger, lift up Thyself because of the rage of our enemies, and awake for us to the judgment Thou hast commanded. Judge us, O, God, and plead our cause against an ungodly nation. Oh! deliver us from the deceitful and unjust man. Deliver us, O, God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man. Let them not say in their hearts, Aha! so would we have it; we have swallowed them up. Let them be confounded and put to shame that seek after our life; let them be turned back and brought to confusion that desire our hurt. Slay them not, but scatter them by Thy power, and bring them down, O, Lord, our shield. Put them in fear, O, Lord, that the nations may know themselves to be but men.

Grant not, O, Lord, the desire of the wicked; further not his wicked device, lest they exalt themselves; but grant unto us, that we, being delivered out of the hand of our enemies, may serve Thee without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Thee all the days of our life.

O, Lord, though our iniquities testify against us, do Thou it for Thy name's sake; for our backslidings are

many; we have sinned against Thee. We have sinned against Thee, because we have forsaken the Lord; but now deliver us out of the hands of our enemies, and we will serve Thee.

Hear now in Heaven, Thy dwelling-place, and answer and forgive; and this we beg for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

BATTLE HYMN.

Father of Earth and Heaven, I call thy name—
 Round me the smoke and shout of battle roll;
 My eyes are dazzled with the blinding flame—
 Father sustain an untried soldier's soul.
 Of life or death, whatever be the goal
 That crowns or closes round this struggling hour,
 Thou know'st if ever from my spirit stole
 One deeper prayer, 't was that no cloud might lower
 On my brief fame. Oh, hear, God of eternal power!

God, thou art merciful! The wentry storm,
 The cloud that pours the thunder from its womb,
 But show the sterner grandeur of thy form;
 The lightnings, glancing through the midnight gloom,
 To Faith's raised eye, as calm, as lovely come,
 As splendor of the autumnal evening's star,
 As roses shaken by the breeze's plume,
 When light and fragrant breathes the dewy air,
 And on the golden west the sunset flames afar.

God, thou art mighty! At thy footstool bound,
 Lie prostrate, Chance and Faith, and Life and Death,
 Nor in the angel circle burning round,
 Nor in the million worlds that roll beneath,
 Is one that can resist thy wrath's hot breath.
 Love in thy frown! in thy smile victory!
 Hear my last prayer! I ask no mortal wreath;
 Let me but once my rescued country see,
 Then take my spirit, Christ, all merciful, to thee!

Now for the fight—now for the cannon peal!
 All round me blood and toil, and cloud and fire;
 Glorious the shout, the shock, the crash of steel,
 The musket roll, the rocket's blasting spire;
 They shake, like broken waves, their squares retire!
 Horsemen, now slack the rein—now give the heel—
 Think of the insulted wife, the murdered sire—
 On, comrades, on! in thunder on them wheel!
 This hour to Liberty shall set the triumph seal!

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